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RECORD-JOURNAL

Front Porch News from Plainville, Southington and Wallingford

By **Ciara Hooks**, Staff Writer

July 31, 2026



Dievert's visit was a part of the school district's focus on college and career readiness. The students are able to explore future career pathways by interacting with professionals from fields including fire, law enforcement, banking, HVAC, construction and other industries.

During his visit, Dievert also shared information about overall fire safety as well.

The RAMP Program helps to build stronger skill sets for students in mathematics and English language arts through targeted instruction while connecting learning to engaging, real-world experiences.

Barnes Museum to host 25th annual Taste of Southington

SOUTHINGTON — The 25th annual Taste of Southington will take place Wednesday from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Barnes Museum, 85 North Main St.

The annual food festival showcases the local restaurants and food trucks the town has to offer and the different cuisines they serve.

Attendees can eat their meals under a shaded tent and listen to the Stanley Big Street Band. Children can also enjoy entertainment by Valentine the Clown.

Free tours of the museum's first floor will also be available.

For more information, visit thebarnesmuseum.org.

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Nonprofit organizations serving Southington receive grants

SOUTHINGTON — Several nonprofit organizations serving Southington residents received grants from the Main Street Community Foundation to help provide access to everyday needs, opportunities, experiences and mental health services.

The foundation awarded a total of \$29,280 to nine local nonprofit organizations through its general grant cycle. This grant is distributed from endowed funds established by donors to support local communities and causes.

The following organizations received grants:

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- Southington Public Library and Barnes Museum, \$6,000 for preservation and restoration project.
 - Southington Housing Authority, \$5,000 for complex enhancements and improvements to its community spaces.
 - CyberKnights Robotics Team, \$4,500 to assist with the the Southington STEM Pipeline to begin shop modernization and upgrades for CyberKnights programming.
 - Mattatuck Museum of Waterbury, \$4,140 grant for its After School Art with the MATT program in collaboration with the Southington YMCA's after-school program, which introduces students to a wide range of artists, mediums and styles.
 - Palace Theater Group of Waterbury, \$3,000 for the performance and post-show discussion of "Mrs. Doubtfire" at the theater for high school students from Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth and Southington.
 - Friends of Southington Community Services, \$2,000 to purchase equipment and supplies for its Operation Stay Warm program.
 - Southington Girls Softball League, \$2,000 to assist with the replacement of the Field 1 dugout.
 - Tabernacle Christian Church, \$1,440 for the purchase of groceries and fresh foods for the Giving Back Food Pantry program, which helps food-insecure residents in Southington and surrounding areas.
 - Southington Symphonic Band, \$1,200 grant for sheet music and related expenses.

A total of \$167,740 was awarded to 47 local organizations through the general grant cycle to help assist with meeting the needs of residents in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott.

For more information, visit mainstreetfoundation.org.